



## NEWS RELEASE

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor  
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### ***Kernan awards \$38,403 in Indiana@Work funds to aid three Central Indiana companies***

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Today, Gov. Joe Kernan dedicated \$38,403 from Indiana@Work, the state's new workforce development initiative, to three central Indiana companies.

With the assistance of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Hamilton County's **Helmer Inc.**, Johnson County's **M A Metal Co. Inc.**, and Marion County's **Tube Processing Corp.** have enrolled in the program. As a result, up to 252 new and existing workers will receive skill assessments and 15 jobs will be profiled at the facilities.

"These three companies reflect the diversity of Indiana's manufacturing economy," Kernan said. "Regardless of their business focus, the need for a skilled workforce is one thing they have in common. I am pleased that these companies have enrolled in Indiana@Work and are taking a vested interest in upgrading the skill levels of their employees."

With a \$12,582 commitment from Indiana@Work, Noblesville's **Helmer Inc.** will be able to assess 51 existing workers. In addition, the Hamilton County company will profile its fabrication, refrigeration/freezer assembly, specialty assembly, shipping and powder coating positions. Established in 1977, Helmer is a manufacturer and worldwide distributor of products for the life sciences industry, including blood bank refrigerators and freezers, centrifuges, and systems for cell washing, platelet storage and plasma thawing. The company's 85 employees are involved in research and development, engineering, manufacturing, quality, administration, distribution, sales and service.

"The assistance provided will allow us to enhance our ability to deliver focused training to those involved in the manufacturing of our specialized product lines," said David Helmer, president of the company. "With our present rapid growth, this will also help us better define and fill the new positions that are becoming available."

**M A Metal Co. Inc.**, an advanced manufacturing firm located in Edinburgh, was one of the first companies in Central Indiana to enroll in Indiana@Work. Employing 43 people, the company requested \$13,640 to assess up to 100 people and profile 5 jobs. These positions include welder, riveter, press operator, die set-up and warehouse. Incorporated in 1946, M A Metal is a supplier of tier-two precision automotive stampings, components and assemblies, and serves customers in the appliance, communication, aircraft and electrical sector.

"M A Metal can now identify and communicate our exact needs to employment agencies as our demand continues to grow. Through this process, we have also discovered detailed tasks not previously known by our management," said John Farley, the company's quality manager. "In addition, the time we needed to invest in this project was overshadowed by the professionalism of the profiler. Thank you for making this program available."

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Indiana@Work Region 8/ add 1

Indianapolis-based **Tube Processing Corp.** will assess up to 101 people and profile five jobs with \$12,181 dedicated by Indiana@Work. The five profiled jobs include machinist, laser operator, sheet metal assembler, welder and castings operator. Founded in 1939, Tube Processing Corp. and its Aerofab and TPC Repair Station divisions are a leader in sophisticated metal component design, engineering, fabrication and repair for the aerospace industry.

Indiana@Work, a joint effort between the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Indiana Department of Commerce, builds around Energize Indiana's four targeted sectors: advanced manufacturing, information technology, life sciences and high-tech distribution. Available through the state's WorkOne and WorkOne Express Centers, Indiana@Work has made skills assessments available to nearly 24,000 Hoosiers and companies statewide have requested more than 400 job profiles since its inception in January.

WorkKeys® skill assessments, a comprehensive testing system developed by ACT® that identifies an individual's skill level, are the centerpiece of Indiana@Work. Based on the assessment scores, the next step is to match individuals with available jobs that require similar skills. The program also offers financial support to fill in any skill gaps through training.

Job profiling, the employer segment of Indiana@Work, helps businesses identify skill levels needed for workers to be successful on the job. Professional job analysts work with existing staff to define the duties and skills needed to perform in each occupation and together they create specific job profiles. Those profiles are then used in the hiring and placement process.

Through its various programs and initiatives, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates the a statewide job placement service

For more information on this or other DWD programs, call 1-800-465-4616 or visit the web site at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).

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